PRESIDENT: Upon the opinion which is fairly universally known. Honourable members can take the Civil List and the Pension List and form their own conclusions in the matter.

Extension of Public Service.

171. ✻ **MR. P. O. THOMAS:** Will the Government be pleased:

(*a*) to state the number of officers in the superior service of the State who would have retired before 30-6-1122 but for the recent Government order extending the service by three years; and

(*b*) to place on the table a statement, by caste, containing the number of such officers with the religious denominations to which they belong?

MR. S. NARAYANA AIYAR: The time and labour involved are not commensurate with the advantages to be gained.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know what is the exact number of officers in the Superior Service at present?

MR. S. NARAYANA AIYAR: I claim notice.

Health and Nutritional Survey.

172. ✻ **MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil* cum *Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether Government have received a copy of a report of the Health and Nutritional survey of the villages of Kotilpad and Puthoor near Colachel conducted by Dr. M. E. Naidu L. R. C. P. & S. (Edin) L. F. P. & S. (Glas) Kottar, Nagercoil and two other Medical Graduates; and

(*b*) whether Government have considered the suggestion contained in the report and whether any steps have been taken to help the fisher folk of those villages?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI (*Director of Public Health*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The report is under consideration.

Scabies.

173. ✻ **MR. S. MUTHUKARUPPA PILLAI** (*Thovala* cum *Agastiswaram*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that scabies is prevalent in the State in an epidemic form so that in certain areas about 75 per cent of the public are affected;

(*b*) whether they have made enquiries as to the causes of such outbreak and if so, what are they; and

(*c*) whether they have taken any special steps to combat it and if so, what are they?

RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. M. K. GOPALA PILLAI: (*a*) An increase in the prevalence of scabies has been observed.

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